OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. Lenihan
1 - T. N. Goble

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: 9-30-64

FROM : W. A. Branigan

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA - CUBA

Reference Sullivan to Belmont memorandum 9-21-64, which set forth that Congressman John R. Pillion (R. - New York) had written the President's Commission and subsequently been interviewed by us. We have had limited, though friendly relations with Congressman Pillion who is serving on the Appropriations Committee. The results of our interview were incorporated in a letterhead memorandum from the Washington Field Office (WFO) dated 9-17-64. A copy of this was furnished to Congressman Pillion in accordance with the recommendation in referenced Sullivan to Belmont memorandum, which was approved.

In substance, Congressman Pillion advised in his letter to the Commission and in the interview that it was his belief that Oswald was a tool of the communist conspiracy and was motivated by his communist ideology, training, associations, and objectives. He said he had no confidential sources and that his beliefs and conclusions were based on public source data. He stated in his interview he did not like the thought of the Commission possibly trying to place any blame for President Kennedy's death on the FBI, Secret Service, or the Dallas Police Department. Instead, he felt the blame for the assassination should be placed on the communist conspiracy.

On 9-29-64 the Congressman's Administrative Assistant, Russell A. Rourke inquired if the memorandum of 9-17-64 setting forth the results of our interview with the Congressman could be released to the press. He was advised the FBI maintains the interview in confidence. Rourke stated the Congressman was very upset upon reading the Commission's report, particularly regarding attacks on the FBI and Secret Service, which he considered wholly unjustified. Rourke stated this convinced the Congressman he should make his own feelings known to newspapermen. Rourke indicated the Congressman would mention to newsmen, as a side issue, that he had been interviewed by the FBI.

ACTION:

For information.

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